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MICHIGAN LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Vol. XLI No. 10 October 1985

JOB SERVICE

Michigan Employment Security Commission

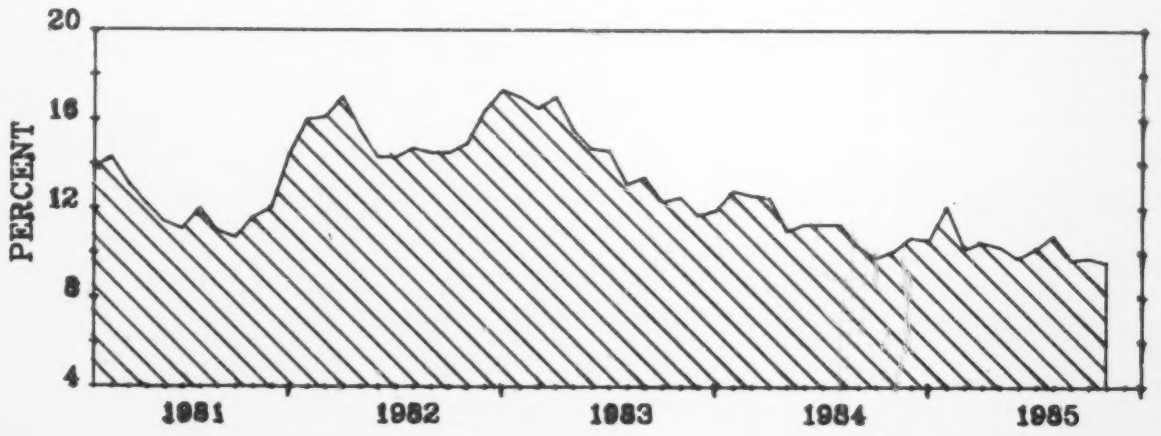
SLIGHT DECLINE IN STATEWIDE RATE

The incidence of unemployment in Michigan receded as the jobless rate slipped from 9.8 percent in September to 9.6 percent in October. Approximately 416,000 workers in the state were unemployed during the month. The decrease in the level of joblessness was primarily the result of seasonal job gains in government employment as educational facilities resumed fall classes. Total employment in October increased by 16,000 to rise to 3,936,000, while the statewide civilian labor force edged upward by 7,000 to reach 4,352,000. When compared to a year ago, employment in Michigan has increased by 6,000, while the size of the labor force has contracted by 20,000. In October 1984, the total number of persons out of work amounted to 442,000, representing an unemployment rate of 10.1 percent.

STATEWIDE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES INCREASE

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in Michigan increased as industry jobs jumped to 3,498,900 in October. Employment opportunities rose by approximately 9,200 from September to October, as an increase occurred in the service producing sector of the economy. Total goods producing employment at 1,080,600, fell by 5,100 as a result of decreased activity in the transportation industry. Service producing positions climbed by 14,300 to 2,418,300 during the month, as educational institutions increased payrolls to begin the new school year. Since October 1984, industry employment in Michigan has climbed by 93,400 positions or 2.7 percent. Approximately 85,700 service producing jobs have been added throughout the year, while goods producing industries accounted for increases of 7,700.

MICHIGAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (1981–1985)



Civilian Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Estimates

State of Michigan

ITEM	OCT 1985	SEP 1985	AUG 1985	OCT 1984
PLACE OF RESIDENCE				
Civilian Labor Force	4352.0	4345.0	4413.0	4372.0
Employment	3936.0	3920.0	3986.0	3930.0
Unemployment	416.0	425.0	428.0	442.0
Rate	9.6	9.8	9.7	10.1
PLACE OF WORK				
Wage and Salary Employment	3498.9	3489.7	3442.5	3405.5
Good Producing Industries	1080.6	1085.7	1064.9	1072.9
Construction and Mining	117.5	115.2	115.2	106.9
Mining	8.6	8.7	9.7	9.4
Construction	108.9	106.5	105.5	97.5
Manufacturing	963.1	970.5	949.7	966.0
Durable Goods	756.7	765.0	744.5	762.0
Lumber and Wood Products	11.8	11.7	12.1	11.9
Furniture and Fixtures	26.9	27.2	27.5	26.3
Metals	168.1	167.4	164.3	173.3
Primary Metals	50.5	50.2	50.5	52.5
Fabricated Metals	117.6	117.2	113.8	120.8
Nonelectrical Machinery	132.3	132.6	128.7	131.9
Electrical Machinery	33.6	33.9	33.7	33.7
Transportation Equipment	347.0	354.9	341.0	347.9
Other Durable Goods	37.0	37.3	37.2	37.0
Nondurable Goods	206.4	205.5	205.3	204.0
Food and Kindred Products	47.4	46.9	47.9	47.0
Textiles and Apparel	20.5	20.5	19.8	20.1
Paper and Allied Products	20.3	20.5	20.4	20.7
Printing and Publishing	36.7	36.6	36.5	35.7
Chemicals and Petroleum	42.6	42.3	42.5	42.7
Other Nondurable Goods	38.9	38.7	38.2	37.8
Service Producing Industries	2418.3	2404.0	2377.5	2332.6
Trans., Comm. and Utilities	141.4	141.0	135.3	139.1
Wholesale Trade	180.3	180.3	180.2	174.8
Retail Trade	605.8	609.0	609.6	581.0
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	159.8	160.7	161.3	154.2
Services	739.7	742.6	740.5	704.4
Government	591.3	570.4	550.6	579.1
Federal	57.6	58.2	58.8	56.5
State	149.5	141.5	130.3	143.6
Local	384.1	370.8	361.5	379.0
Labor Disputes	3.7	3.4	6.8	0.9

* Indicates a labor-management dispute in the industry.

Notes: Data expressed in thousands. Current month data are preliminary.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE data are based on the monthly Current Population Survey of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics — 1984 Benchmark.

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT is based on a monthly sample of employing establishments as part of the co-operative federal-state Current Employment Statistics program — March 1984 Benchmark.

CLAIMS ACTIVITY

The number of individuals collecting regular unemployment benefits decreased during the month of October. The regular benefits claims load averaged 86,525 per week during the month, approximately 2,275 less than the September total. In October 1984, the number of claimants drawing benefits under the regular benefit program averaged 100,000.

Additionally, due to the expiration of the Federal Supplemental Compensation (FSC) program on March 31, 1985, all claimants have exhausted their (FSC) benefit entitlement. The Extended Benefit (EB) program ended on May 21, 1983, thereby disqualifying claimants from collecting benefits under that program.

WEEKLY CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Week Ending	Regular Program			Federal Supplemental Compensation		
	Total	Initial	Cont'd	Total	Initial	Cont'd
October 05, 1985	85,200	12,800	72,400	0	0	0
October 12, 1985	84,400	12,500	71,900	0	0	0
October 19, 1985	86,100	13,600	72,500	0	0	0
October 26, 1985	90,400	15,200	75,200	0	0	0

AREA PRICES MOVE DOWNWARD

Consumer prices in the Detroit metropolitan area declined for the first time in eleven months as the CPI slipped to 319.7 in October. The drop in prices was primarily due to decreased housing and apparel costs. Prices in the area climbed by 2.5 percent since October 1984, when the Consumer Price Index stood at 311.9.

Nationally, the cost of living rose by three tenths of a percent to reach 325.5 during the month. The higher national prices were due to additional costs for apparel , medical care and transportation. Between October 1984 and October 1985, national consumer prices increased by 3.2 percent. One year ago, the national index registered 315.3.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

The average workweek of Michigan workers in manufacturing industries remained unchanged at 43.5 hours in October. Additional hours worked by individuals in primary metals were easily offset by fewer hours worked by persons in electrical and nonelectrical machinery.

During the month average hourly earnings fell by eleven cents to $12.69, while average weekly earnings decreased by $4.79 to total $552.01. In October 1984, earnings averaged $12.24 an hour or $529.99 per week for a 43.3 hour workweek.

MICHIGAN'S HOURS AND EARNINGS

Industry	Average Hourly Earnings a/			Average Weekly Hours a/			Average Weekly Earnings a/		
	Oct 1985	Sep 1985	Oct 1984	Oct 1985	Sep 1985	Oct 1984	Oct 1985	Sep 1985	Oct 1984
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	$12.69	$12.80	$12.24	43.5	43.5	43.3	$552.01	$556.80	$529.99
DURABLE GOODS	13.25	13.36	12.71	43.9	43.9	43.6	581.67	586.50	554.16
Primary Metal Products	12.38	12.34	11.97	43.4	42.5	40.9	537.29	524.45	489.57
Fabricated Metal Products	12.77	12.75	11.97	43.6	43.6	43.0	556.77	555.90	514.71
Nonelectrical Machinery	12.68	12.71	12.09	43.1	43.7	43.3	546.41	555.43	523.50
Electrical Machinery	10.63	10.73	10.48	41.8	42.1	41.9	444.33	451.73	439.11
Motor Vehicles & Equip.	14.76	14.97	14.27	45.0	45.0	44.9	664.20	673.65	640.72
NONDURABLE GOODS	10.47	10.54	10.32	41.8	42.1	42.1	437.65	443.73	434.47
Contract Construction	15.13	15.20	14.39	38.8	39.7	38.4	587.04	603.44	552.58
Department Stores	6.72	6.62	6.18	27.3	27.6	29.0	183.46	182.71	179.22

a/ Average weekly and hourly earnings are computed from aggregates of individual establishment reports utilizing the total amount paid to production workers and total production hours. Average weekly and hourly earnings differ from weekly and hourly rates in that they are affected by overtime wage rates, part-time earnings, the length of the workweek, etc.

Note: *Current month data are preliminary.*

Labor Surplus Areas Eligible for Federal Procurement Preference From October 1, 1985 through September 30, 1986

Eligible Labor Surplus Areas	Political Jurisdiction(s) Included
Alcona County	Alcona County
Alger County	Alger County
Allegan County	Allegan County
Alpena County	Alpena County
Antrim County	Antrim County
Arenac County	Arenac County
Baraga County	Baraga County
Barry County	Barry County
Battle Creek City,	Battle Creek City in Calhoun County
Bay County	Bay County
Benzie County	Benzie County
Berrien County	Berrien County
Branch County	Branch County
Calhoun County, Balance of	Calhoun County, less Battle Creek City
Cass County	Cass County
Charlevoix County	Charlevoix County
Cheboygan County	Cheboygan County
Chippewa County	Chippewa County
Clare County	Clare County
Clinton Township	Clinton Township in Macomb County
Crawford County	Crawford County
Delta County	Delta County
Detroit City	Detroit City in Wayne County
Dickinson County	Dickinson County
Emmet County	Emmet County
Flint City	Flint City in Genesee County
Genessee County, Balance of	Genesee County less Flint City
Gladwin County	Gladwin County
Gogebic County	Gogebic County
Grand Rapids City	Grand Rapids City in Kent County
Grand Traverse County	Grand Traverse County
Gratiot County	Gratiot County
Hillsdale County	Hillsdale County
Houghton County	Houghton County
Huron County	Huron County
Ionia County	Ionia County
Iosco County	Iosco County
Iron County	Iron County
Jackson County	Jackson County
Kalamazoo City	Kalamazoo City in Kalamazoo County
Kalkaska County	Kalkaska County
Keweenaw County	Keweenaw County
Lake County	Lake County
Lansing City	Lansing City in Ingham and Eaton Counties
Lapeer County	Lapeer County
Leelanau County	Leelanau County
Lenawee County	Lenawee County
Livingston County	Livingston County
Luce County	Luce County
Mackinac County	Mackinac County
Macomb County, Balance of	Macomb County less Clinton Township, Roseville City, St. Clair Shores City, Sterling Heights City, Warren City
Manistee County	Manistee County
Marquette County	Marquette County
Mason County	Mason County
Mecosta County	Mecosta County
Menominee County	Menominee County
Midland County	Midland County
Missaukee County	Missaukee County
Monroe County	Monroe County
Montcalm County	Montcalm County
Montmorency County	Montmorency County
Muskegon County	Muskegon County
Newaygo County	Newaygo County
Oakland County, Balance of	Oakland County less Farmington Hills City Pontiac City, Royal Oak City, Southfield City, Troy City, Waterford Township
Oceana County	Oceana County
Ogemaw County	Ogemaw County
Ontonagon County	Ontonagon County
Osceola County	Osceola County
Oscoda County	Oscoda County
Otsego County	Otsego County
Pontiac City	Pontiac City in Oakland County
Presque Isle County	Presque Isle County
Roscommon County	Roscommon County
Roseville City	Roseville City in Macomb County
Saginaw City	Saginaw City in Saginaw County
Saginaw County, Balance of	Saginaw County less Saginaw City
St. Clair County	St. Clair County
St. Clair Shores City	St. Clair Shores City in Macomb County
St. Joseph County	St. Joseph County
Sanilac County	Sanilac County
Schoolcraft County	Schoolcraft County
Shiawassee County	Shiawassee County
Sterling Heights City	Sterling Heights City in Macomb County
Taylor City	Taylor City in Wayne County
Tuscola County	Tuscola County
Van Buren County	Van Buren County
Warren City	Warren City in Macomb County
Washtenaw County, Balance of	Washtenaw County less Ann Arbor City
Waterford Township	Waterford Township in Oakland County
Wayne County, Balance of	Wayne County less Dearborn City, Detroit City, Livonia City, Redford Township, Taylor City, Westland City
Westland City	Westland City in Wayne County
Wexford County	Wexford County

Source: Michigan Employment Security Commission — Bureau of Research and Statistics

MICHIGAN EMPLOYMENT
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MICHIGAN LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Vol. XLI No. 11 November 1985

JOB SERVICE

Michigan Employment Security Commission

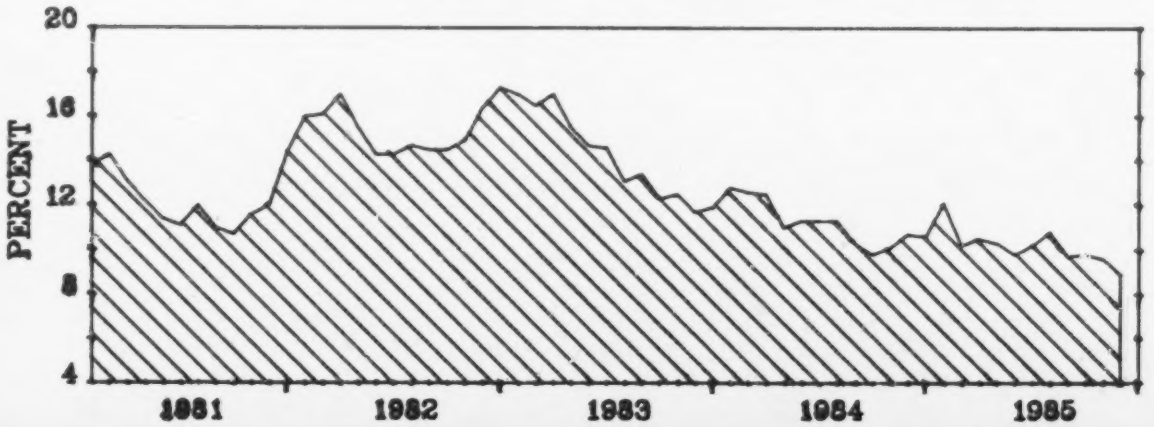
JOBLESS RATE FALLS BELOW NINE PERCENT

During the month of November, the Michigan unemployment rate decreased by seven tenths of a percentage point to fall to 8.9 percent. The state's current jobless rate is the lowest level recorded since December 1979 when it registered 8.5 percent. Approximately 391,000 workers in the state were unemployed during the month. The decrease in the level of joblessness was primarily the result of seasonal job gains in both retail trade and service related industries. Total employment in November climbed by 62,000 to reach 3,998,000, as retailers increased their holiday employment levels. Additionally, the statewide civilian labor force expanded by 37,000 due to the influx of individuals seeking holiday jobs. When compared to a year ago, employment in Michigan has increased by 94,000, while the size of the labor force has grown by 18,000. In November 1984, the total number of persons out of work amounted to 468,000, representing an unemployment rate of 10.7 percent.

SEASONAL HOLIDAY EMPLOYMENT EXPANDS SOME STATEWIDE PAYROLLS

Michigan's wage and salary employment fell as industry jobs dropped to 3,504,800 in November. Employment opportunities dropped by approximately 1,800 from October to November, as service producing gains could not keep pace with the losses that occurred in the goods producing industries. Total goods producing employment at 1,075,400, dropped by 7,900 as a result of decreased activity in the automotive and related industries. Service producing positions climbed by 6,300 to 2,429,500 during the month, as retail establishments increased payrolls with anticipation of the holiday shopping season. Since November 1984, industry employment in Michigan has climbed by 104,200 positions or 3.06 percent. Approximately 91,600 service producing jobs have been added throughout the year, while goods producing industries accounted for increases of 12,600.

MICHIGAN UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (1981–1985)



Civilian Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment Estimates
State of Michigan

ITEM	NOV 1985	OCT 1985	SEP 1985	NOV 1984
PLACE OF RESIDENCE				
Civilian Labor Force	4345.0	4352.0	4345.0	4371.0
Employment	3920.0	3936.0	3920.0	3904.0
Unemployment	425.0	416.0	425.0	468.0
Rate	9.8	9.6	9.8	10.7
PLACE OF WORK				
Wage and Salary Employment	3504.8	3506.6	3489.7	3400.6
Good Producing Industries	1075.4	1083.3	1085.7	1062.8
Construction and Mining	116.5	117.3	115.2	104.6
Mining	9.6	8.6	8.7	9.3
Construction	106.9	108.7	106.5	95.3
Manufacturing	958.9	966.0	970.5	958.2
Durable Goods	753.9	758.1	765.0	756.3
Lumber and Wood Products	11.6	11.8	11.7	11.8
Furniture and Fixtures	27.0	27.0	27.2	26.6
Metals	167.4	168.3	167.4	170.9
Primary Metals	50.3	50.7	50.2	52.6
Fabricated Metals	117.1	117.6	117.2	118.3
Nonelectrical Machinery	133.7	133.0	132.6	131.0
Electrical Machinery	33.7	33.6	33.9	33.8
Transportation Equipment	343.8	347.7	354.9	345.4
Other Durable Goods	36.7	36.7	37.3	36.8
Nondurable Goods	205.0	207.9	205.5	202.0
Food and Kindred Products	46.2	48.9	46.9	45.9
Textiles and Apparel	20.4	20.6	20.5	20.3
Paper and Allied Products	20.4	20.3	20.5	20.5
Printing and Publishing	36.8	36.7	36.6	35.6
Chemicals and Petroleum	42.0	42.6	42.3	42.4
Other Nondurable Goods	39.2	38.8	38.7	37.3
Service Producing Industries	2429.5	2423.2	2404.0	2337.9
Trans., Comm. and Utilities	140.7	141.3	141.0	137.9
Wholesale Trade	179.0	179.8	180.3	173.9
Retail Trade	613.5	606.0	609.0	590.3
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	160.3	160.2	160.7	154.6
Services	734.5	738.8	742.6	700.9
Government	601.5	597.1	570.4	580.3
Federal	58.2	57.9	58.2	56.6
State	153.2	153.7	141.5	143.4
Local	390.2	385.6	370.8	380.3
Labor Disputes	0.9	3.7	3.4	0.4

* Indicates a labor-management dispute in the industry.

Notes: Data expressed in thousands. Current month data are preliminary.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE data are based on the monthly Current Population Survey of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics — 1984 Benchmark.

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT is based on a monthly sample of employing establishments as part of the co-operative federal-state Current Employment Statistics program — March 1984 Benchmark.

CLAIMS ACTIVITY

Individuals collecting regular unemployment benefits increased during the month of November. The regular benefits claims load averaged 99,640 per week during the month, approximately 13,115 more than the October total. In November 1984, the number of claimants drawing benefits under the regular benefit program averaged 118,100.

In addition, due to the expiration of the Federal Supplemental Compensation (FSC) program on March 31, 1985, all claimants have exhausted their (FSC) benefit entitlement. The Extended Benefit (EB) program ended on May 21,1983, thereby disqualifying claimants from collecting benefits under that program.

WEEKLY CLAIMS FOR UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Week Ending	Regular Program			Federal Supplemental Compensation		
	Total	Initial	Cont'd	Total	Initial	Cont'd
November 02, 1985	90,600	14,300	76,300	0	0	0
November 09, 1985	93,000	14,800	78,200	0	0	0
November 16, 1985	98,800	16,900	81,900	0	0	0
November 23, 1985	108,200	16,300	91,900	0	0	0
November 30, 1985	107,600	18,000	89,600	0	0	0

DETROIT AREA PRICES JUMP

The cost of living in the Detroit metropolitan area increased by 1.1 percentage point over the month to reach 323.1 in November. The rise in Detroit area prices was primarily due to sharp increases in apparel,food and beverages and medical care costs. Prices in the area jumped by 4.7 percent since November 1984, when the consumer price index stood at 308.7.

On the national level, the cost of living advanced by three tenths of a percent to reach 326.6 during the month. The higher national prices were due to additional costs for transportation, medical care and food. Between November 1984 and November 1985, national consumer prices increased by 3.6 percent. One year ago the national index registered 315.3.

HOURS AND EARNINGS

The average workweek of Michigan workers in manufacturing industries dropped to 42.6 hours in November. The decrease was shared by all of the heavy manufacturing industries, with fabricated metal products showing the largest decline of 1.4 hours.

During the month average hourly earnings climbed by eight cents to $12.74, while average weekly earnings decreased by $7.99 to total $542.72. In November 1984, earnings averaged $12.42 an hour or $517.91 per week for 41.7 hour workweek.

MICHIGAN'S HOURS AND EARNINGS

Industry	Average Hourly Earnings a/			Average Weekly Hours a/			Average Weekly Earnings a/		
	Nov 1985	Oct 1985	Nov 1984	Nov 1985	Oct 1985	Nov 1984	Nov 1985	Oct 1985	Nov 1984
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	$12.74	$12.66	$12.42	42.6	43.5	41.7	$542.72	$550.71	$517.91
DURABLE GOODS	13.32	13.22	12.89	42.9	43.9	42.0	571.43	580.36	541.38
Primary Metal Products	12.41	12.30	11.93	42.8	43.8	38.9	531.15	538.74	464.08
Fabricated Metal Products	12.88	12.76	12.16	42.2	43.6	41.7	543.54	556.34	507.07
Nonelectrical Machinery	12.74	12.67	12.29	42.1	43.3	41.0	536.35	548.61	503.89
Electrical Machinery	10.73	10.61	10.61	40.6	41.9	39.9	435.64	444.56	423.34
Motor Vehicles & Equip.	14.82	14.72	14.48	44.1	44.8	43.3	653.56	659.46	626.98
NONDURABLE GOODS	10.45	10.47	10.53	41.5	41.9	40.8	433.67	438.69	429.62
Contract Construction	15.18	14.98	14.53	35.9	39.1	34.7	544.96	585.72	504.19
Department Stores	6.53	6.66	6.16	28.0	27.4	29.5	182.84	182.48	181.72

a/ Average weekly and hourly earnings are computed from aggregates of individual establishment reports utilizing the total amount paid to production workers and total production hours. Average weekly and hourly earnings differ from weekly and hourly rates in that they are affected by overtime wage rates, part-time earnings, the length of the workweek, etc.

Note: *Current month data are preliminary.*